

REMARKS

Claims 1-19 were pending in the above-identified application when last examined and are amended as indicated above.

Claims 1 and 4 were objected to as containing informalities. In response, claim 4 is amended to replace "third layer" with --third insulating layer-- as the Examiner suggested. Claim 1 is canceled. In view of the above amendments, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claim 4.

Claims 1-3 and 9 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 5,567,634 (Hébert). Claim 1 is canceled. Claims 2, 3, and 9 are amended to depend from objected to claim 6, which is now patentable for the reasons given below. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

Claims 4 and 5 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hébert in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,168,331 (Yilmaz). Claim 4 is amended so that claims 4 and 5 depend from objected to claim 6. Accordingly, claims 4 and 5 are patentable for at least the same reasons that claim 6 is patentable, and Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Hébert in view of U.S. Pat. No. 5,915,179 (Etou). Claim 8 is amended to depend from objected to claim 6, which is now patentable for the reasons given below. Accordingly, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103.

Claims 6 and 7 were objected to as dependent upon a rejected claim but were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 6 is amended to independent form including the limitation of canceled base claim 1. Claim 7 remains dependent on claim 6, but no longer depends from a rejected claim. In view of these amendments, Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to claims 6 and 7.

Claims 10-19 stand allowed. However, claims 10 and 15 are amended to correct errors or improve their form.

Claim 20 is added. New claim 20 depends from claim 6 and is patentable for at least the same reasons that claim 6 is patentable.

In summary, claims 1-19 were pending in the application. Claims 10-19 were allowed. This response cancels claim 1, amends claims 2-4, 6, 8-10, and 15, and adds claim 20. For the above reasons, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the application including claims 2-20.

Please contact the undersigned attorney at (408) 927-6700 if there are any questions concerning the application or this document.

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Respectfully submitted,



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